

A

REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, December 7. 1710.

I Am to proceed in an Argument no less Strange, than at this time Necessary ; and which indged, I should not have ventur'd to meddle with, but for the sake of Honest People, remote from the Capital, who are but too much amused with the Insolent boasts of a Party, that all these Changes among us tend to the Pretender.

Had they gone no farther than to say, that the Pretender and his Friends the French, have been encourag'd by these Tumults and Disorders, Divisions and Dissentions, to expect some Advantage to their Cause, and to reap every Day some

Harvest from our Strife ; had this been all, I should have held my Peace, acquiesc'd in the Argument, and own'd the Suggestion, as a Thing justly deduc'd from the Premises : But when they descend to Particulars — And lay the restoring the Pretender, at the Door of the *Dissenters*, of the Queen, — nay, of the Parliament itself ; I think it cannot be unserviceable, a little to expose the Folly of such an Amusement — Not by Way of Vindication, either of her Majesty or the Parliament, from these Scandalous Aspersions — It would be a Crime even to imagine, that either of these could be in the least brought to a *Cafe*.

Case for Vindication in this matter. — But to remove the Influence these wild Suggestions have upon the Poor deluded People, especially in the North, where *Jacobitism* appears in clearer Colours than in these Parts and this will be more manifest in the Proofs of this Paper.

And first, tho' I shall be one of the last Men in *Britain*, that shall Vindicate a *Tory*, yet for the Information of the Readers in both Parts of this Island, I shall tell both of them *some News* concerning *Toryism*, which perhaps they did not hear before, and for the Truth of Fact, I refer it to Judgment and Experience.

1. In the South Parts, there are *Tories* who would take it very ill to be call'd *Jacobites*; nay, who really and *bona fide*, are not Jacobite in their Principle; who if the *Pretender* should Attempt a Return, would freely venture their Lives, and spend their Estates against him; who are Enemies to Property, and are well enough pleas'd with the Revolution. This will be perfectly *NEWS in the North of Britain*, and I know when this shall be read there, it will of Course be ask'd, *Why do you call them Tories then?* — This would require a long Answer, but I shall give it in *Minature*; They are *Tories* not in opposition to the Revolution, but in opposition to *Dissenters*, who were the only People at first, that we call'd *Whigs*; and since, they have obtain'd an Additional Title, for these are the People that we call *High-Church*, abstractly so: They hate a Dissenter worse than a Papist, they regret the Toleration, they would Tack an Occasional Bill, or do almost any thing to obtain it; they would restore wholesome Severities, or in *English*, Persecution; they would shut up Meeting-Houses, pull down Academy's, and allow us no Liberty to teach our Children; they are always crying out of the Danger of the Church from *Dissenters* — They stand up-

on the very Pinnacle of Ceremonies, exact a Rigorous Conformity, and are always boasting of themselves, in the Language of the Old *Jewish High-Church Men*, the *Temple of the Lord*, the *Temple of the Lord*, the *Temple of the Lord*, **ARE THESE**; these are the *Tories* in the South.

2. In the North Parts of *Britain*, there is not one of these to be found, at least, I could neither see nor hear of them; but according to my best Information, if you see a *Tory*, there you see a *Jacobite*; *Tory* and *Jacobite* is the same Thing, Numerically and Individually: If there is a *Tory* in *Scotland* who thinks himself injur'd by this, and will stand forth and say, He is not for the *Pretender*, I shall readily ask him Pardon, and add to it — That I should be glad to hear of his Name; for I profess that neither of my own Knowledge, and that is not of the least in that Country, neither by Enquiry, could I find a Man who professes himself one, and not the other — This I suppose to be *NEWS in the South*.

And now to do Justice to the Gentlemen in *Scotland*, I must own, I think them much Honester than our Southern Clandestine *Jacobites*, who cover their Principles with Oaths and Abjurations, just as *Guy Fauks* did his Gun-Powder under the Parliament House, with Timber, Billets, Coals, and Stones, that the Weight might make the Force of the Blast the more effectual; I will not say that there is the more Cunning or Subtilty in it — But I will say, if our Eyes are open to any Thing, it makes the Northern *Jacobites* the less Dangerous of the two, I am sure, and far the *Honester* Men.

However it may give you a more true Notion of Men, and of their general Characters, than you had before, since of most Men that come from thence, you have little more to ask than this, *Is he a Presbyterian?* — If the Answer is *No* — The Syllogism

logism is plain enough for one of King James's Hounds to make ; Then he must be a Jacobite.

What our Friends the Protestant Tories above, will say to this, I know not, and how they who hate a Dissenter worse than a Papist or a Mahometan, will do in this Case, I know not ; but the Fact, I think, admits of no Dispute — And therefore I could not but think the giving you this Account of it Necessary.

I return now to the *English Tory*, or *High-Churchman* ; I think I have gone a great Way in his Favour, in telling you that he is really no Jacobite, not at all for the Pretender — And this may serve to allay your Fears about bringing in the Pretender, tho' you should at any time find such Men brought into Parliament, or into Places — They are not for Popery, or for Popish Princes, at least it is not in their Design ; I will not say but the Jacobites believe these Men nearer to them than the Whigs, why else are they so forward always to join with them against the Whigs ? It seems plain, they either believe the Tory more inclin'd to them, or more easie to be wheedled and drawn into their Interest than the Whigs —

Neither of which is at all to the Reputation of the High Church Men, but they cannot blame me for the Consequence, till they remove the Cause, for the Fact is not to be deny'd, vr. That the profess'd Jacobites fall in always with the High Church against the Whigs, and against the Dissenters — That is plain, tho' I am persuad'd we shall soon see them break —

Since it is evident, they do not aim at the same Point, they do not Steer at the same Port, and therefore cannot Sail far together — But if either are true, to the Course their Principles Guides to — However they may Sail from the Shore together, they must part in the Voiage.

And this very Consideration, gives me a clear Idea of the Consequences of the present Changes ; and if in representing

these Ideas of mine, I speak more in favour of our High Church Party than will be expected of me, I am sure it is far from a desire to encourage their Practices, or make my Court to their Favour — As to the first I abhor it ; As to the second I cannot receive it, because I stand by those I know they abhor.

High Church, in the Sense I have now describ'd it, have at present, the Turn of Affairs in their Favour, I am ready to grant and believe, they will make it good, that their View is not to Favour *France*, to restore the Pretender, to Dethrone their Sovereign, and unravel the Revolution ; nay, I'd go farther, I will not suggest of them, that they have any Designs against the *Succession*, or against the *Union* ; this is as much as they can ask of me to grant — And yet all this while, these Men are High-Church, they will run Extravagant lengths that Way, their Aversion is the Dissenters, and with Parson *Clark* of *Northumberland*, they will give up to the Papist, the Mahometan, or any Thing but a Presbyterian, of which hereafter.

Now, Gentlemen, having premis'd of these People call'd High Church Men, that they will thus Act against Popery and the Pretender, let me observe one Thing farther.

Throughout this Nation, I believe, I need not except any Place, the Papists, the Jacobites, the Non-Jurors, fall in with the High Church Men, they go Hand in Hand with them in Elections — In Mobb', in running down the Whigs, in exposing the Dissenters, and indeed fall in heartily, as far as can be seen, with all their Measures —

What the Jacobites aim at, they plainly own ; What the Papist desires, he Honestly tells us, and that the High Church Men (as above) are positively fix'd on another Foot, I have own'd for them, I hope none of them will disown it — Pray then how far can these Men go together ?

They may join in pulling down the Dissenters, breaking in upon their Tolleration, Oppressing and Tyrannizing, and God knows how far they may prevail in that Case, but what

what then? When they have done all that, when the High Church Man has gone his full length, and can go no farther, will the Jacobite acquiesce? — Is he any nearer his end then he was before? — Will they not part at last? And if the Tory will not join with him to bring in his Pretender, will he not forsake him? — Will

he not Court the Whig or Dissenter, or any one else, *Acheronta Movebit*, to Aid and Assist him to pull down these very High Church Men at last? — Let any Man but Examine into the Nature of these Things, they will find it so — History will also confirm it by Practice — So that these People cannot go far together.

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